

**WEST LAFAYETTE TRAFFIC COMMISSION
WEST LAFAYETTE CITY BUILDING
WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA**

TIME: 5:30 pm, Wednesday, May 20, 2009

PLACE: City Council Chambers

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| PRESENT: | Dave Buck | Chris Leroux |
| | Vicki Burch | Karen O'Farrell |
| | John Cox | Larry Preo |
| | Nick DeBoer | Kumares Sinha |
| | David Downey | Boudewijn van Gelder |

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| VISITORS: | Eric Chin | Wendy Field |
| | Beth Cook | Ann Hunt |
| | John Dennis | Jan Myers |
| | Jason Dombkowski | Nancy Triplett |

Chairman Sinha brought the meeting to order and determined there was a quorum. Ms. Burch made a motion to approve the March minutes. Mr. Van Gelder seconded and the March minutes were approved as written.

NEW BUSINESS:

09-08 Pedestrian Safety Concerns

Ms. Triplett brought to the commission a concern about pedestrians and their safety when walking around the city. Ms. Triplett stated that she walks every day and vehicles do not observe crosswalk signals or yield to pedestrians. She would like to know if there is anything she can do to encourage change. Chairman Sinha stated that the commission has discussed this issue several times and appreciated her comments. The law states that pedestrians have the right of way, and once a pedestrian is in a crosswalk, drivers must yield. In other Midwest cities, drivers are well trained and the law is respected. Drivers in West Lafayette need to be trained to yield to pedestrians.

Chairman Sinha suggested that Ms. Triplett contact the police department when she has a specific incident to report. Captain Leroux stated that the police can make an effort to add enforcement in these areas. He cautioned that additional enforcement would need to be somewhat "creative" as drivers tend to behave differently when officers are visible. Captain Leroux stated that in addition to enforcement, an effort to educate the public is also necessary.

Captain Leroux stated that beginning in August/September there will be a campaign emphasizing the obligation of drivers to yield to pedestrians in crosswalks. In addition to this campaign, the city is preparing to install two mid-block crossings. Mr. Buck stated that these mid-block crossings will promote and emphasize the need to yield to pedestrians.

Chief Dombkowski reminded the commission that the city does not have control over all the roadways in the city. It can sometimes be difficult to make changes on state roads. Chairman Sinha encouraged the city to come up with a plan to improve pedestrian safety. Once we have a plan, we can talk to the state and make recommendations.

09-09 Entrance to Payless at Salisbury

Mr. Buck stated that he received an email from a citizen who was concerned with the Payless entrance at Salisbury Street. The email stated that there have been many "close calls" at this location. Captain Leroux has provided crash reports for the section of Salisbury Street between Kent and the Payless entrance. Mr. Buck will continue to collect data and return to the commission with a recommendation at a later date. Mr. Buck asked that commission members forward any comments to him.

OLD BUSINESS:

05-03 Salisbury Street Safety Improvement Project

Ms. Myers requested the city provide a pedestrian detour for the Lindberg and Salisbury intersection. Due to the construction associated with the Salisbury Street Safety Improvement project, some sidewalks on Lindberg and Salisbury have been temporarily closed. Mr. Buck stated that it would not be possible to provide a north/south crossing, but he will look into providing an east/west crossing.

09-05 Roundabout Public Forum

Mr. Jeromy Grenard, from American Structurepoint, led a presentation and discussion on modern roundabouts. Also speaking at this forum were Craig Parks, from American Structurepoint, and Mike McBride, the City Engineer of Carmel, Indiana.

NEXT MEETING: 5:00 pm, Tuesday, July 21, 2009, Lower Level Conference Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D.M. Buck".

David M. Buck, P.E.
City Engineer

DMB/wf